



## MINUTES

### CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION FEBRUARY 16, 2011

**Call to Order/  
Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Siersema, who led Commissioners and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Commissioners Absent:** McGovern

**Commissioners Present:** Commissioners Cook, Herbel, O'Connell, Siersema, Spencer, and Thomas were in attendance.

**Others Present:** Joan Flynn, City Clerk  
Travis Hopkins, Director of Public Works  
Tony Olmos, City Engineer  
Terri Elliott, Principal Engineer  
Jim Merid, Administrative Environmental Specialist  
Judy Marquez, Administrative Environmental Specialist  
Andy Ferrigno, Senior Civil Engineer  
Joyce Greene, Administrative Assistant

#### B. PRESENTATIONS-COMMENDATIONS

None

#### C. MINUTES

Commissioner McGovern sent email requesting an amendment to the minutes of January 19, 2011.

Motion by Commissioner Herbel, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to approve the minutes of January 19, 2011 as amended.

VOTE: The motion carried.  
AYES: 3  
NOES: 0  
ABSENT: 1 (McGovern)  
ABSTENTIONS: 3 (Cook, O'Connell, Thomas)

#### **D. OATH OF OFFICE**

City Clerk Joan Flynn administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Commissioners Debbie Cook and Jennifer Thomas.

Travis Hopkins welcomed the two new Commissioners.

#### **E. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

#### **F. DIRECTOR'S ITEMS**

- F-1. Commission Business – The reorganization of the Public Works Commission is held each February with the election of the Chair and Vice Chair.

Motion by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Spencer to re-elect Commissioner Siersema as Chair and Commissioner Tom Herbel as Vice Chair.

VOTE:	The motion carried.
AYES:	6
NOES:	0
ABSENT:	1 (McGovern)
ABSTENTIONS:	0

- F-2. Strategic Planning Retreat – Travis Hopkins provided information from the January 28, 2011 Strategic Planning Retreat. The Mission Statement, Core Values, and Three-Year Goals were included in the report.

The Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (S.W.O.T.) accomplishments since the January 2010 Strategic Planning Retreat were presented. Other information in the report included Current Internal Weaknesses/Challenges; External Factors/Trends that Will/Might have a Positive Impact in the Coming Year; External Factors/Trends that Will/Might have a Negative Impact were in the report.

The 10-Year CIP Funding Gap was discussed. Travis Hopkins will email the presentation to the Public Works Commissioners. The presentation by the Finance Director regarding the options to address the budget shortfall was included in the report.

Travis Hopkins discussed the Six-Month Strategic Objectives. Of those objectives, two will involve the Public Works Commission. The Commission is to be involved in the process of identifying sources of funding for infrastructure

needs, a potential storm drain fee, and report the outcome to the City Council for action. Implementation of a storm drain fee would require a mail-in vote by property owners with a two-thirds vote in favor of the fee in order to pass. The city realizes it will be very difficult to pass a new fee and will need to involve other organizations to be advocates of the fee to be successful.

Discussion held on some suggestions of cost reductions such as street light reduction as the electric bill to the city is significant; alley ownership and maintenance be transferred to adjacent property owners.

Discussion was held to determine the preference of the Commission. Alternatives suggested were to form a sub-committee, hold a special meeting, or have staff prepare a report with recommendations of sources of funding for infrastructure projects, and information related to a storm drain fee. Staff could then present their recommendations to the Commission at the March meeting. The Commission agreed to have staff prepare a report for review at the next meeting. If at that time the Commission feels more time is required, a decision will be made to either start the following meeting at an earlier time, have an extended meeting, or schedule a special meeting.

Commissioner O'Connell expressed concern over the Governor's possible elimination of the Redevelopment Agency and inquired would such action result in lost funding already designated for projects. Travis Hopkins responded committed funding would not be eliminated.

Travis Hopkins stated much of the city shortfall is CalPERS related. The amount of shortfall for the city was recently updated with actuarial figures being revised. The rate of anticipated return on CalPERS investments has been reduced increasing the city deficit and could become higher should the projected rate of return not be met.

Commissioner Cook requested a summary of cuts made over the last several years. Travis Hopkins responded he can provide for Public Works and can request the same from other departments.

## **G. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- G-1. Active Capital Project Report – Tony Olmos provided updates on various projects and then asked the Commissioners for any questions.

Commissioner Herbel inquired of the Brookhurst/Adams improvement project. Tony Olmos responded it is grant funded and will design turn lanes at the intersection. Funding for only the design phase has been awarded. Currently, funding has not been granted for construction. Travis Hopkins stated the project will be expensive but could be done in phases.

Chair Siersema inquired on the status of the Utility Yard improvements and if the project is on budget. Tony Olmos responded the project is on schedule and coming in under budget. This project was suggested to be included in a tour of CIP projects for next fiscal year.

Commissioner Herbel inquired of the 30-inch waterline project on Adams Avenue and if the paving is final over the trenching. He stated the paving is very rough. Tony Olmos responded this is not the final paving. Commissioner Herbel requested an inspector look at the paving.

Chair Siersema inquired about the cost savings of the installation of LED streetlights in the downtown area over standard streetlights. Travis Hopkins said he would report back with that information.

- G-2. Water Quality Report Update – Program Effectiveness Assessment – Terri Elliott introduced her staff and then presented the annual report. The report included information on such items as adoption of policies by the city, inspections conducted, dry weather diversions, street sweeping and debris collected, cleaning of catch basins and feet of storm drain pipes cleaned. Public education efforts included Coastal Clean-up Day, Green Expo, and participation in Children's Festival of Folktales.

Tony Olmos added the duties of the Water Quality Sub-committee now fall under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Commission. Quarterly reports will continue to be presented along with the annual report.

## **H. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

- H-1. Advertise Adams/Ranger Sewer Lift Station #16 Rebuild; CC 1369 – Andy Ferrigno presented the staff report. The sewer lift station was originally constructed in 1963 and is showing sign of deterioration. The project will abandon the existing lift station and force main and will replace it with a new lift station and force main just east of the existing station. The cost of the project is \$1.3 million and the construction is estimated at 140 days to completion.

A neighborhood meeting will be held to advise residents of the project. The project will impact the frontage road. There will be some lane closures on Adams as a result of the project.

Motion by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to recommend to the City Council, the Adams/Ranger Sewer Lift Station #16 rebuild, CC 1369.

VOTE:	The motion carried.
AYES:	6
NOES:	0
ABSENT:	1 (McGovern)
ABSTENTIONS:	0

**I. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**J. COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS**

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.

  
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Michael Sierséma  
Chair

  
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Joyce Greene  
Administrative Assistant